

Meeting Date: January 17, 2008

Agenda Item No. 10

Agenda Item: To adopt changes to the Rules governing the Trapping of Predatory and Unprotected Wildlife and the taking of Furbearing Animals (IDAPA 13, Title 01, Chapter 16).

Approved by: _____

Prepared by: Don Kemner

Background:

- Furbearer and trapping seasons, dates, quotas, and limits are set on even-numbered years and cover a two-year period.
- There were 1,000 licensed trappers in Idaho.
- The Department is working to reestablish beaver colonies on some streams.

Policy issues:

- Increase trapping opportunity is a strategy of the Department's Compass.
- Simplify rules is an objective of the Department's furbearer management plan.
- Enhance wildlife habitat is a strategy of the Department's Compass. Reestablishing beaver colonies is a tool available to enhance wildlife habitat.

Public Involvement Process:

- All regions provided the public with opportunities to comment on Department-proposed changes.
- The Department website had a questionnaire asking for public input on the proposed changes to furbearer and trapping rules.
- Input was solicited from the trapping associations in Idaho.

Justification:

Seasons are designed to manage Idaho's furbearer resources for maximum trapping and hunting opportunity while considering biological and sociological implications.

Action Requested:

Commission adoption of the Department's recommendations.

Staff Recommendations:

Preliminary recommendations provided to the public for input are attached. Final recommendations, after considering public input, will be presented at the Commission meeting.